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FRONT RANGE FLYER

302nd Airlift Wing, U.S. Air Force Reserve Command

Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.



Telling the
wing story

See page 4

Do your heroes measure up?

By Brig. Gen. William P. Kane
302nd AW commander

What is a "hero?" Who are your heroes? I hear people mention sports stars like Barry Bonds and Arthur Ashe. I hear names associated with community leaders and ecologi-

cal causes. Some of us believe our parents are heroes. In other words, a hero is someone honored in the eye of the individual. In this month's article, I will tell you about someone who I consider a hero.

In 2003 I attended the funeral of a man that by anyone's definition was a hero and a leader. It has been said that heroism is defined as "ordinary people doing extraordinary things." I don't know if Gen. Ray Davis was ever ordinary but his deeds could definitely be considered extraordinary.

During the Korean War, there was a multi-division Marine push to drive across the Korean Peninsula, through the mountains below the Yalu River. The drive was stopped

by a massive Chinese counter-attack near the Chosin Reservoir. Until that time the Chinese involvement had been limited and Gen. Douglas MacArthur had assured the president that the Chinese would not enter the war. Unfortunately, he was wrong, and a large portion of a Marine division was cut off and sur-



Gen. Ray Davis

Heroes continued on page 4



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Don't panic, you have the rest of your life

By Chaplain (Capt.) Tim Wilson
302nd AW chaplain

Sitting on the hard wooden bleachers at Fort Benning while attending the U.S. Army Airborne School, we prepared for our first parachute jump. Soon we would hear the jumpmaster bark out the orders, "Stand up! Hook up! Checking equipment! Stand in the door! Go! Go! Go!," while our C-130 soared hundreds of feet above the red Georgia clay. Needless to say, the instructors had our undivided attention.

The muscular airborne sergeant's voice rang out confidently as he explained what to do in case of parachute malfunction. "If your main parachute should fail to deploy, don't panic – pull the handle of your auxiliary parachute. Should your auxiliary parachute fail to fill with air, don't panic – pull it into your body and then vigorously throw it away from yourself. Should your auxiliary

chute again fail to deploy, don't panic – vigorously repeat this process."

He paused dramatically, looking intently into our eyes. Then, with a slightly mischievous grin, he slowly stated, "Should this also fail, don't panic – you have the rest of your life to get your auxiliary parachute to deploy."

An uneasy nervous laughter reverberated through the bleachers. Our minds instantly calculated the feeling of freefalling through the thin air, accelerating more by the second and then, the very real possibility of "burning into" the landing zone.

The most significant questions each one of us must ask ourselves as we freefall through this uncertain life is, "How long do I have to love and to care and to achieve?" What things do I need to pass on? What things do I need to make right?

In the airborne sergeant's words, you have the rest of your life.

On the cover



Take this route

The 302nd Airlift Wing tells its story with people like Maj. Pat Ryan, 731st Airlift Squadron navigator, pictured showing Forest Ollinger, a Junior ROTC student from Westminster, Colo., a crew manual during a tour of a C-130 March 9. See editorial on page 4. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. David D. Morton)

UTA Schedule

Next UTA: April 2-3

May 14-15
June 11-12
July 9-10

The next UTA schedule is printed in more detail on page 10. The **Front Range Flyer** is mailed each month to all 302nd Airlift Wing members on file with Personnel Systems. If you are not receiving your magazine, check with your orderly room or administration section to ensure your address is correct.

Join 'Total Support' effort in your community

By Chief Master Sgt. Eric Deylius
731st Airlift Squadron

I had the unique opportunity to attend a senior enlisted breakfast recently. Hosted by the Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce, the uniqueness of this event was not necessarily the discussion of the Armed Forces Luncheon, but the enlightenment I received on how much this community really cares for the military.

One example of community involvement is an organization called The Home Front Cares. One of their mission statements is to provide support for the Pikes Peak Region's military families of all services who have been impacted by deployment in harm's way. Here is one of the many success stories to prove that there really is somewhere to go when help from the community is needed.

Nora Ann's car: in disrepair, intermittently inoperative, and with a serious diagnosis. Several bids for repairs were \$400-plus. One maintenance shop completed the repairs for \$318 — paid by The Home Front Cares. This is just one of many stories ranging

from home repairs to helping with utility bills. There are several other businesses in the community that have programs for the military family.

Now, here's my pitch. These programs throughout the community need volunteers to assist with fund-raisers in order to keep doing what they are doing — and that is helping the military family. What better way to

give back to the community for what the community has given the military? What better way to put that extra bullet statement on your officer/enlisted performance reports or Promotions for Exceptional Performers package? What better way to get involved just for involvement's sake?

Here are some agencies that can use your help: Dignity Memorial Vietnam Wall Experience, www.vietnamwallexperience.com; and The Home Front Cares, www.thehomefrontcares.org.

We are truly blessed by the support we get from the City of Colorado Springs!

You all know the term "Total Force" — let's make this "Total Support."



Body modification, accoutrements reflect on your image

By Chief Master Sgt. Gary L. Brown
302nd Security Forces Squadron

Editor's note: This is the third in a three-part series about setting the example by looking sharp.

In the previous two issues of the Front Range Flyer, I talked about setting the example for others to follow by taking care of the more obvious aspects of your appearance — wear of the hair and wear of the uniform. However, there are other areas that may not be as noticeable which you should be concerned with if you plan to set the example for others to follow.

The trend is growing in body modification such as branding, tattooing and piercing.

Should you have a tattoo, it should not cover more than one

quarter of the exposed body part, or be above the collarbone. The tattoo should not be obscene, or advocate sexual, racial, ethnic, or religious discrimination. These are prohibited in and out of uniform. Should the tattoo exceed the standard, it should be covered with a long sleeve shirt, or with pants or dark hosiery.

Body piercings on female troops other than ear piercing on the ear lobes are not authorized in uniform. This includes, but is not limited to nose, tongue, and ear cartilage piercings. Male troops are not authorized any type of body piercing while in uniform.

A large number of you wear jewelry and there are guidelines for that as well. You are not authorized to wear more than three rings at one time and only one bracelet which does not detract

from the uniform appearance. Necklaces are to be concealed under your shirt. Females are authorized to wear one spherical, conservative diamond, gold white pearl or silver pierced or clip earring per earlobe. Matching earrings must be worn and should fit tightly without extending below the earlobe. Females may color polish their fingernails, but the color must be conservative and not detract from the uniform appearance.

Cellular phones and pagers are unauthorized in uniform unless they are used for official duty in which they will be clipped to waistband, purse, or held in the left hand.

Eyeglasses and sunglasses must be free of ornamentation on frames and lenses. With eyeglasses, conservative, clear, slightly tinted or photosensitive lenses are authorized indoors or

in formation. Conservative lenses and frames are authorized outdoors. However, faddish styles and mirrored lenses are prohibited. No sunglasses will be worn in formation or worn around the neck.

As you can easily see, if you were to come across an airman or officer who violated the requirements of Air Force Instruction 36-2903 by not trying to meet or exceed the standards, it would be difficult for that individual to understand why they should comply if you do not yourself. Therefore, you should comply with AFI 36-2903 in a manner which will set an example for younger troops, as well as not face Uniform Code of Military Justice action for violating any standards in the AFI.

Don't just set the example — be an example for others to follow!



901st/302nd Reunion Western Barbecue and Dance

Saturday, Aug. 6, 5:30 p.m. Bldg. 210, Bay 1

More details coming in future issues



Force Development: changing the education mindset

By Gen. John P. Jumper

Air Force chief of staff

Over the past few years, we have initiated a number of educational initiatives for Force Development, focusing on changing the way we develop and train our people to meet the challenges of the Expeditionary Air Force. Force Development takes a deliberate approach to providing Airmen the training and experience they need to succeed in delivering air and space power now and in the future. We must make sure Airmen get the training and education required for their specialty or area of expertise. If you need additional education or training – you will get it.

This mindset is a significant change, especially for officers. For years, Master's degrees had a significant impact on promotion potential. This must change - our focus should be on deliberate development

and not "square filling." Education must be tailored to benefit Airmen in doing their jobs. Promotion is, and will continue to be, determined by your performance and demonstrated leadership potential to serve in the next higher grade.

Beginning in January, we removed all academic education information, including Bachelor's degrees, from all Line of the Air Force and Judge Advocate General promotion boards through the rank of colonel. The Guard and Reserve components will implement the same procedures beginning with boards convening after Jan. 1, 2006.

All Airmen should receive some form of development to assist them in their duties in higher grades and levels of responsibility. We will provide the right development venues to meet both Airmen and Air Force needs. At the same time, I'm not discouraging you from pursuing an advanced academic degree on

your own. We will continue to offer tuition assistance and operate educational support offices at each base. Advanced academic degrees will no longer be a factor in the promotion process at any level of the process: rater, senior rater, management-level, or the promotion board. The Air Force's emphasis is on job performance and for providing Airmen the right opportunities for advanced education when it is required.

This new policy will not affect chaplain and health profession officers. Due to certification requirements, we need to continue showing academic information for these officers.

The goal is clear – develop professional Airmen who will collectively leverage their respective strengths to accomplish the Air Force mission. You make our Air Force the best in the world. We owe it to you to provide the skills and education you need to continue to excel!

Public exposure of wing mission requires total team effort

By Tech. Sgt. Tim Taylor

Front Range Flyer

Public Affairs is often offered opportunities to expose the public to the 302nd Airlift Wing.

Through our Community Relations program we inform others about the importance of our mission and how the wing, as a whole, plays a vital role in the defense of this great nation. This is a task none of us can achieve alone.

For instance, showing a group of Junior ROTC students a C-130 requires coordination with several other work centers to ensure a successful visit.

When PA escorts a group to the flight line it's always a pleasure to see a pilot, navigator, loadmaster or crew chief waiting to brief the visitors. Sure, we could probably dazzle visi-

tors with a barrage of statistics and interesting tidbits, but it pales in comparison to a presentation from those who actually fly and work on the Herc.

It's not only their knowledge of what it takes to maintain and fly the aircraft, it is also their experiences. Visitors really get a feel for what this wing does when they hear first-hand accounts of aerial firefighting, flights to foreign lands, or cargo and personnel transport.

A visit to a C-130 can serve as an excellent recruiting tool with young people. It can also work in changing an employer's or civic leader's skepticism into a positive reflection on the Reserve.

Every member of the 302nd AW has a hand in exposing this unit to the public, whether it be directly or indirectly. It is this type of team effort which makes us the best.

Heroes continued from page 2

rounded – individual companies were in danger of annihilation. Maj. Gen. Oliver P. Smith, the division commander, was quoted by newsmen who were with him as saying, "Retreat hell! We're just attacking in a different direction."

Lt. Col. Ray Davis was the battalion commander tasked with relieving a rifle company that had been cut off. Colonel Davis' force attacked up the steep ice-covered slopes into strong opposition. He attacked at night when the December temperatures were well below zero. He personally led the assault group and, in hand-to-hand fighting, drove the enemy from their positions. He led his battalion over three successive ridges through deep snow in continuous attacks. He brought his battalion eight miles through heavy enemy resistance and to within 1500 meters of the surrounded rifle company by daylight.

Once united, he and his battalion held the critical mountain passes so two regiments could escape to the division's stronghold. He brought with him 22 litter cases and numerous walking wounded. Against vastly superior numbers, in horrific weather, against all odds, he led his troops to victory.

I can't tell you what character traits allowed him to lead his men so bravely and with such honor. I can speculate he was well trained and never asked his men to do things he couldn't and wouldn't do himself. I suspect he drove his men hard but drove himself harder. I know that the man was among the most honorable, honest and humble men I have ever met. I have met men who fought with him who told me they would follow him to the gates of Hell, and I believe them.

I consider it an honor to have shaken General Davis' hand and to have heard him talk about his experiences. I will always consider him my hero.

Again, who are your heroes? Do they measure up?

302nd Airlift Wing honors top Airmen of 2004

By Tech. Sgt. Tim Taylor
Front Range Flyer

The 302nd Airlift Wing honored its annual award winners March 6 in a slightly different fashion. In past years, the 302nd AW First Sergeants Council honored the airman, noncommissioned officer, senior NCO, first sergeant and company grade officer of the year at a banquet. This time, the honorees were recognized at the wing commander's call, followed by a luncheon in one of the Bldg. 210 maintenance hangars.

"We wanted more participation and attendance from the junior enlisted," said Senior

Master Sgt. Robert Pacheco, council president. "If you attended it was obvious we met that goal. Second, we wanted more attendance. Last year we had approximately 117. This year, at a conservative approximation, we had 260 tickets sold. Based on the participation and attendance I believe it went, outstanding.



Tech. Sgt.
Wahini Gaditano

"Due to our target audience being junior enlisted, the First Sergeants Council took a risk and made the enlisted luncheon as informal, as possible; therefore, we had the luncheon in the hanger and not in a formal setting. Furthermore, we had the uniform of the day

in order to address supervisors' and individual needs or preference," Sergeant Pacheco added. "Next year we will address some of the negative feedback we received."

Of course, the stars of this show were the five winners for 2004. The 302nd Logistics Readiness Squadron boasted three in Senior Airman Paul Franklin, Senior Master Sergeant Jonathan Christian and Capt. Kristin Simpson. Tech. Sgt. Wahini Gaditano, 302nd Mission Support Flight; and Master Sgt. Jerome Hinojos,



Master Sgt.
Jerome Hinojos

302nd Security Forces Squadron, were the other winners.

Airman of the Year

Airman Franklin, a fuels technician, works a steady job while attending two colleges in El Paso, Texas. He's been with the wing 1 1/2 years.



NCO of the Year

Senior Airman
Paul Franklin

Recently promoted, Sergeant Gaditano celebrated two years with the wing last month. A resident of Colorado Springs, she is an air reserve technician and chief of the 302nd MSF.

Top Airmen continued on page 8

302nd Airlift Wing Employer Orientation form

Employer Information

Employer's full name _____
Employer's title/position _____
Company name _____
Business address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Work phone _____
Employer special needs (dietary, physical, etc.)? If yes, please explain:

Reservist Information

Rank/name _____ Unit _____ Duty phone _____
Home address _____
E-mail _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Homephone _____ Civilian work phone _____
Military position title _____
Civilian position title _____
Planning to lunch with your employer? _____ yes _____ no

302nd AW to honor employers June 11

An opportunity for reservists to thank their bosses for all the support they've given them during the past year is here. This year's 302nd Airlift Wing Employer Appreciation Day is scheduled for Saturday, June 11.

Employers will be treated to an orientation flight on one of the wing's C-130H aircraft in the morning, followed by a luncheon at the Peterson Air Force Base Officer's Club.

At the luncheon, they will hear from Fred Fletemeyer, Colorado Chairman for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. They will also hear from Brig. Gen. William P. Kane, 302nd AW commander, and will receive a Modular Airborne Firefighting System briefing.

Completed forms must be returned by May 27 and may be sent via fax to 719-556-4214, by e-mail to 302AW/PA@302.peterson.af.mil or by mail to 302 AW/PA, 860 Malmstrom Street, Suite 138, Peterson AFB CO 80914-1179. For more information, call public affairs at 556-4117.

Pete 5 – 302nd Airlift Wing

By 2nd Lt. Jody Ritchie
Front Range Flyer

Half a world away, he heard his son's first cry over a cell phone.

Earlier that day, he was engaged in a fire fight with insurgents in Fallujah, Iraq, firing several dozen Mark-19 grenades into a build-



Tech. Sgt. Jorge L. Talamantes Jr. stands atop a gun truck in Iraq. (Photo courtesy of Master Sgt. Timothy Martinez)

ing while the enemy returned fire with small arms weapons and rocket propelled grenades. The barrage from American forces ended when the building collapsed and the enemy was eliminated.

The Airmen of the 2632nd Transportation Company returned with several celebrating the victory. Adrenaline pumping, they whooped and hollered while congratulating each other.

Tech. Sgt. Jorge L. Talamantes Jr. knew he had to find a quiet area to call his wife; she was due to deliver their son at any time. Fortunately, Sergeant Talamantes was able to find a quiet corner and make a very well-timed phone call, connecting to his wife's cell phone while she was delivering their son. It was an emotional roller coaster ride few can imagine.

Sergeant Talamantes was one of five 302nd Airlift Wing members who deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in January 2004. Their Air Force Specialty

Code is "Vehicle Operator." Their job with the 302nd Logistics Readiness Squadron is to operate heavy equipment: buses, forklifts, tractor-trailers and similar equipment.

The "Pete 5," as they became known, were making Air Force history as members of the first ever Air Force transportation company. The 2632nd would eat, sleep and travel with Army forces.

Their adventure began at Fort Leonard Wood, Ga., as they were introduced to the Army equipment and lingo. After a week, they moved to Fort Dix, N.J. to learn how Army convoys traveled, including "attacks" from Army special forces, advanced self-aid and buddy care

courses, and weapons familiarization. Another four weeks in Kuwait for more training, and the Pete 5 were finally starting their 6-month deployment.

In Kuwait, the five were separated with Tech. Sgt. James R. Kohler being assigned to a company that primarily took care of the base needs and handled incoming cargo. He flew into Balad, Iraq, while the other four members of the "Pete 5" traveled in a convoy to Balad to meet the company they were replacing.

Within 15 minutes of landing at Balad, Sergeant Kohler saw the war up close and personal as the flight line received a volley of mortars from outside the base perimeter.

When the other four members of the Pete 5 arrived in Balad, the company they were replacing turned over the equipment to the 2632nd TC, but there were no tractor-trailers, only humvees and tactical gun trucks. That's when the 2632nd TC realized their job for the next six months would be provid-

ing security for Army convoys, said Tech. Sgt. Lawrence M. Prieto.

Mortar attacks continued with at least one nearly every day. "You couldn't walk out to the porta-potty without body armor," said Sergeant Kohler.

"We came to the realization that we may not come back," said Sergeant Prieto, who received his activation call on his wedding day.

Some people wrote "last letters" home and gave them to friends while some had recognized the danger in advance and made their peace before they left home, said Master Sgt. Bobby J. Alexander.

The Mark-19, a mounted grenade launcher, quickly became a primary weapon for the 2632nd TC. "Our guys hadn't even seen one until we were in Iraq," said Sergeant Kohler.

Not only did the 2632nd TC have to learn new equipment, they also learned to call in medical evacuation helicopters and even the proper way to load the injured onto the choppers. "It took a little practice. I called one chopper in so close, he knocked me over when he was landing," said Sergeant Talamantes.

"On the majority of trips, something happened," said Sergeant Prieto. Sometimes it was small arms fire, sometimes RPGs, and sometimes it was improvised explosive devices (roadside bombs). "April was the toughest month; we were attacked every trip."

The job was tough and after completing missions, the 2632nd TC would receive intel debriefs. Sometimes they found out information that "increased the pucker factor," said Sergeant Alexander.

Sergeant Prieto had one mission where it may have been better to not know what happened. His convoy stopped on a bypass (bridge) because of resistance ahead. The

Wing's humble heroes

convoys never stopped on bypasses, said Sergeant Prieto, so he knew something was wrong. The resistance was eliminated and the convoy continued. An investigation discovered

bombs attached to the bridge. The bombs had been wired with cable that could not carry the current needed for the bombs.

The bridge didn't collapse because the cable blew up instead of the bombs.

Life and death decisions were part of the day for the noncommissioned officers of the 2632nd TC. Master Sergeant Timothy Martinez was the lead on a mission where his was the first of two convoys with the same destination. For safety reasons, the convoys were split,

leaving their origination point at different times, and taking different routes to the destination. Sergeant Martinez was given a route he was not familiar with and had a bad feeling about taking his people on that route. Instead of following the unfamiliar route, he escorted his convoy on a route he was familiar with. As he arrived at his destination, a cloud of black smoke could be seen in the distance. He later learned the smoke was coming from the second convoy. That convoy had taken the route Sergeant Martinez was told to take and they were ambushed. That convoy received multiple casualties, including deaths, and one missing in action. "I expected to get reprimanded, but after what happened, I didn't," said Sergeant Martinez.

The 2632nd TC logged over 44,000 miles and countless hours on the road in Iraq, said Sergeant Talamantes. When they weren't driving, they experienced conditions not normally associated with Air Force deployments.

"A lot of times, we were sleeping outside, next to our

vehicles," said Sergeant Alexander. "Or under them," added Sergeant Prieto.

If they were lucky enough to have the protection of a tent, they were thankful. But even living in a tent wasn't easy. "Tents would get up to 120 degrees with the air conditioning units running," said Sergeant Alexander.

Hot showers took on a new meaning as the water, held in black tanks to use solar power for heating, would get up to 130 degrees. "There was no cold water," said Sergeant Kohler.

Faced with the living conditions and constant danger, the Airmen of the 2632nd TC kept their chins up. "Morale for us being where we were at was high," said Sergeant Prieto. The Airmen

entertained themselves by having movie nights or playing PlayStation video games.

The deployment lasted eight months, not the six that was planned. When the Pete 5 returned to Colorado, they were well decorated. Sergeant Martinez and Sergeant Talamantes received the Army Bronze Star, while Sergeant Kohler, Sergeant Alexander and Sergeant Prieto received the Army Commendation Medal.

As an additional thank you, Sergeant Talamantes and Sergeant Prieto were invited

to attend the 2005 Presidential Inauguration in January.

"It was a once in a lifetime opportunity; motivational and awesome," said Sergeant Talamantes. He stood among 1,000 other Airmen during the gala at the MCI Center in Washington, D.C. At the gala, he saw a friend he had last seen in Balad; the friend never returned from a mission after having part of his foot blown off by an IED.

"Being honored at the gala and ball was an awesome experience," said Sergeant Prieto, who took his wife with him. Just how honored was apparent as he and his wife

entered the gala. A red carpet had been rolled out, but Sergeant Prieto and his wife walked down the sidewalk. When they showed tickets

"If any of us five go back, we're all going back."

Master Sgt. Timothy Martinez

to get in, they were turned away. "They said the red carpet was there for us, and they told us to go back and walk down it. My wife loved it."

The experiences in Iraq, and the honor of having two of the five attend the presidential inauguration, has forged a strong bond between the "Pete 5."

"We were doing something important over there," said Sergeant Kohler.

"If any of us five go back, we're all going back," added Sergeant Martinez.



Left to right, Master Sgt. Timothy Martinez, Master Sgt. Bobby J. Alexander, Tech. Sgt. James R. Kohler, Tech. Sgt. Jorge L. Talamantes Jr., Tech. Sgt. Lawrence M. Prieto. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. David D. Morton)

President asks for more money, fewer AF reservists

WASHINGTON – The president's proposed defense budget for next year seeks \$3.9 billion in funding for Air Force Reserve Command and an end-strength of 74,000 reservists.

The 2006 request covers the fiscal year starting Oct. 1. It asks for 2,100 fewer reservists than the 76,100 authorized in fiscal 2005.

Senior Department of Defense officials announced the overall defense budget request of \$419.3 billion. The Air Force is to get \$127.5 billion.

"This budget represents the latest installment in the president's strong commitment to transforming this department to face the challenges of the 21st century," said Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld in a news release Feb. 7. "We continue our transition to a more agile, deployable and lethal force.

"We are a nation at war," he added. "The

president's budget, together with the supplemental spending proposals the president has made, provides the men and women in uniform what they need to prevail."

In the president's budget, the Air Force Reserve requests funding for three appropriations – operation and maintenance, reserve personnel, and military construction.

Most of the AFRC portion of the FY 2006 President's Budget request, \$2.5 billion, is for O & M funds to train, organize and administer the command. The Reserve got \$2.24 billion in O & M funds in fiscal 2005.

In 2006, another \$1.31 billion goes to the reserve personnel appropriation for military personnel participation and training requirements. This funding includes a military pay raise of 3.5 percent, and the addition of 390 full-time Active Guard and Reserve people. The requested reserve personnel appropria-

tion represents a \$155.2 million decrease compared to that received for the fiscal 2005 reserve personnel appropriation.

Requested funding for military construction in FY 2006 is \$79.3 million. These funds would pay for 14 major projects in eight states. In this fiscal 2005, the Reserve is getting \$124 million for military construction, which includes major and minor projects, and planning and design. In his fiscal 2005 budget request, the president had recommended \$84.6 million, but Congress added \$39.4 million more to fund seven additional projects.

Finally, Congress added another \$281 million to help the Reserve in fiscal 2005 – \$40 million in the National Guard and Reserve Equipment Appropriation and \$241 million in aircraft procurement with the active-duty Air Force. (AFRC News Service)

Top Airmen continued from page 15

Senior NCO of the Year

Sergeant Hinojos, a squad leader with the 302nd SFS, will be with the wing 7 ½ years this month and has been in the military for more than 15 years. He lives in El Paso, Texas.

First Sergeant of the Year

Sergeant Christian had actually retired in February, but donned his service dress uniform one more time for the occasion. He



dedicated 38 years of his life to military service to his country.

Company Grade Officer of the Year

Captain Simpson is also an ART and the chief of plans, but also served as interim commander for the 302nd LRS. She's been in the military for almost 11 years, the last three with the 302nd AW.



Capt.
Kristin Simpson

The rewards for being the wing's best each year are bountiful. The wing provided each enlisted winner with

an engraved plaque and coin to commemorate the occasion and the Chiefs' Group gave each enlisted winner a plaque. The First Sergeants Council presented each winner with a first sergeants coin and plaque.

Winners were also bestowed with honors from other supporters as well.

The Army-Air Force Exchange service gave annual winners \$25 gift certificates and a coupon book and presented quarterly award winners with a coupon book.

USAA gave each enlisted winner a coupon book valued at \$400.

Ent Federal Credit Union gave \$100 savings bonds to the annual award winners and \$50 savings bonds quarterly winners.

Five Star Bank provided the airman and NCO of the year with \$50 gift certificates.

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University gave each annual award winner and each quarterly award winner one semester hour of tuition (equivalent to \$150).

The 302nd AW Recruiting

Service provide a gift bag containing a pen, coffee cup, T-shirt and hat.

Fred Fletemeyer, chairman, Colorado Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, helped offset the cost of the luncheon, donating a check for \$400.



New commander

Maj. John M. Marang (right) receives command of the 302nd Logistics Readiness Squadron from Lt. Col. Michael J. McCully, 302nd Mission Support group commander, March 6. Major Marang assumed command from interim commander, Capt. Kristin Simpson.



Government travel card personal data lost

In December 2004 the Bank of America suffered the loss of computer data tapes which contained government travel card account numbers and personal information for numerous Department of Defense Bank of America government travel cardholders.

Bank of America has established a dedicated toll free telephone number (1-800-493-8444) for questions or concerns connected with this loss of data.

General information is available at http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft/consumertopics_bk.html.

Troops in combat areas get tax credit options

Troops deployed to combat zones can now apply for tax refunds based on earned income tax credits, as well as additional child tax credits.

Service members who want to

apply for the credit refunds are required to fill out and file a federal tax return. Enlisted troops serving in combat areas already have all of their military pay excluded from federal taxes, while officers in combat zones can exclude as much as \$6,529 of their monthly pay.

Troops deployed to non-combat overseas areas have until June 15 to file their income taxes. Troops serving in a combat zone have up to 180 days to file their taxes after departing the area.

For more information, go to <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123009850>.

Homosexual policy training required for some

All supervisors, first sergeants and commanders are required to complete homosexual policy training on an annual basis. There are two methods you may use to fulfill this annual training requirement. One is a web-based briefing. The other is a judge advocate briefing conducted at the 302nd Airlift Wing.

Web-based homosexual policy training takes 30 minutes to complete. The training site can be found at <http://www.aetc.randolph.af.mil/ja/s03t0048.htm>. After you complete the training, complete the

"Training Certificate" and mail it to 302 AW/JA and retain a copy for your records.

The 302nd AW Judge Advocate office conducts a 30-minute briefing Sunday of the unit training assemblies at 10 a.m. in the 731st Airlift Squadron second floor conference room.

If you attended a previous Homosexual Policy training session conducted by a Judge Advocate in the past year, you do not need to complete the training again.

If you have questions contact Tech. Sgt. Vicki Robertson, 302nd AW JA assistant law office manager, at 556-8140.

Sending personal information over e-mail

Be careful before transmitting personal information over e-mail to ensure it is adequately safeguarded. Some information may be so sensitive and personal that e-mail may not be the proper way to transmit it.

When sending personal information over e-mail within DOD, ensure: (1) there is an official need; (2) all addressee(s), including "cc" addressees, are authorized to receive it under the Privacy Act; and (3) it is protected from unauthorized disclosure, loss, or alteration. Protec-

tion methods may include encryption or password protecting the information in a separate Word document.

When transmitting personal information over e-mail, add "FOUO" to the beginning of the subject line, followed by the subject, and apply the following statement at the beginning of the e-mail: "This e-mail contains FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY (FOUO) information which must be protected under the Privacy Act and AFI 33-332." Do not indiscriminately apply this statement to e-mails. Use it only in situations when you are transmitting personal information.

Department of Defense Regulation 5400.7/Air Force Supplement, Chapter 4, has more guidance about FOUO information.

B bags relocated to new location

Due to a situation with a recent inspection by the fire department at Bldg. 130, 302nd Airlift Wing B bags have been relocated to Warehouse 11.

Individuals needing a B bag (cold weather mobility bag) must inform the Bldg. 130 staff prior to pick-up. They will pull the bag from and have it ready for pick-up at Bldg. 130. A and C bags are still stored at Bldg. 130.

Airman of the quarter aspires to communicate

By Tech. Sgt. David D. Morton
Front Range Flyer

Senior Airman Fiaui Tasse, 731st Airlift Squadron, information management technician, leads a diverse life. Aside from duties as a hip-hop music director for 91.3 FM/KMSA at Mesa State College in Grand Junction, Colo., Airman Tasse also found time to prepare for the quarterly awards board. The 302nd Airlift Wing is singing his praises, selecting him Airman of the Quarter for the first quarter of 2005.

"I love all kinds of music," said Airman Tasse, a junior year at MSC, who produces 30-60 radio spots for the on-campus station. "I would

like to continue my broadcasting career once I graduate, and broaden the horizon of mass communication."

A resident of Widefield, Colo., he joined the military in 2003 and followed in the footsteps of his father, who retired from Fort Carson after a 21-year Army career. "I first did two years of college before joining the military," said Airman Tasse. "My ultimate goal is to use the abilities I've acquired in the Reserve as an information management technician in the civilian world.

"I want to thank my supervisor, Tech. Sgt. Kristen Lattimer, for inspiring me to pursue this award."



Senior Airman Fiaui Tasse works computer issues during the March unit training assembly. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. David D. Morton)

Unit Training Assembly Schedule

April 2-3

	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>POC</u>
S A T U R D A Y	0530 – 0800	Breakfast	Aragon Dining Facility	SVMFA/6-4180
	0730 – 1600	Newcomers Orientation	Bldg. 893, Conference Room	DPMSC/6-8185
	0730 – 0900	No Meeting Period	All Locations	CV/6-7087
	0730 – 1630	Physical Exams	Clinic	ASTS/6-1132
	0745 – 1630	MPF Hours	Bldg. 895, Room 219A	DPMSC/6-8185
	0900 – 1000	Unit Training Manager Meeting	Bldg. 895, Room 203	DPMT/6-7250
	1000 – 1600	Military Clothing Sales	Bldg. 1466	LSM/6- 3227
	1000 – 1045	Wing Training Planning Council	Bldg. 895, Room 203	CCX/6-0142
	1100 – 1300	Lunch	Aragon Dining Facility	SVMFA/6-4180
	1100 – 1300	Lunch & A Lift	Aragon Colorado Room	HC/6-7428
	1215 – 1530	CDC/PME Testing	Bldg. 895, Room 203/204	DPMT/6-7250
	1300 – 1600	Chaplain Available	Bldg. 893, Room 143	HC/6-7428
	1300 – 1530	Self Aid/Buddy Care Refresher	Bldg. 350, Room 2127	ASTS/6-1132
	1400 – 1500	Family Day Meeting	Bldg. 208 Conference Room	DPMFR/6-6505
	1500 – 1900	Bowling Tournament & Fund-raiser	Peterson AFB Bowling Center	SVF/6-4001
	1600 – 1800	Dinner	Aragon Dining Facility	SVMFA/6-4180
	2000 – 2300	Late Night Carry-out	Aragon Dining Facility	SVMFA/6-4180
S U N D A Y	0530 – 0800	Breakfast	Aragon Dining Facility	SVMFA/6-4180
	0730 – 0830	Chiefs' Group Meeting	Silver Spruce Golf Course	CCC/6-8132
	0730 – 1200	MPF Hours	Bldg. 895, Room 219A	DPMSC/6-8185
	0800 – 0900	Career Advisor Training	Bldg. 895, Room 203	CCA/6-7702
	0800 – 1000	3AO AFSC Training	Bldg. 893, Conference Room	SC/6-3299
	1000 – 1100	First Sergeants Meeting	Bldg. 208	CCF/6-8307
	1000 – 1100	Homosexual Policy Training	Bldg. 890, 2nd Floor Briefing Room	JA/6-8140
	1000 – 1100	Records Management Training	Bldg. 893, Conference Rm	SC/6-3299
	1000 – 1100	Family Support Unit Representative Mtg.	Bldg. 895, Training Room	DPMFR/6-6505
	1100 – 1200	Junior Enlisted Advisory Council	Bldg. 350	LRS/6-7371
	1100 – 1300	Lunch	Aragon Dining Facility	SVMFA/6-4180
	1600 – 1800	Dinner	Aragon Dining Facility	SVMFA/6-4180

✓ **Can't make the UTA but you made lodging reservations?**
Contact Master Sgt. Terry Brassard at (719) 556-4001 or 1-800-446-9624 to cancel.

✓ **Want an event on next month's schedule?** Call (719) 556-4117 or e-mail 302aw.pa@302.peterson.af.mil.

Program offers subsidized child care to Guard, Reserve families

By Samantha L. Quigley
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — Department of Defense officials have joined forces with national agencies to help Guard and Reserve families in finding and affording child care while a parent is deployed supporting the war on terrorism.

"Child care, as you know, is one of the top (concerns) voiced by families as well as by commands on what's needed," said Jan Witte, director of the Pentagon's office of children and youth. The new program is called Operation Military Child Care.

"We have a contract with (the association) to assist us in finding spaces outside the military community for those Guard and Reserve (service members) who are deployed and active-duty (people) who are not near a military installation," she said. "We also hope to assist in reducing the out-of-pocket expense to the service member."

When a parent is deployed, she said, the remaining parent may discover that child care is something the couple had not had to think of before.

While Ms. Witte's office does not fully subsidize child care, it does work to reduce the financial

burden, she said. The fees are based on a sliding scale that takes into consideration total family income and the care provider's actual cost, among other things.

To take part in the program, a family member can apply through the association on the operation's Web site or by calling toll-free (800) 424-2246. The child-care provider also must apply — an important step because of how the subsidy is paid out, Ms. Witte said.

"The subsidy goes to the program, not to the individual," she said.

She said the new program

could get about 5,000 Guard and Reserve service members' children into child care.

Congress has funded the program for \$7 million, Ms. Witte said, though officials hope to expand the program in the future to accommodate some of the 38,000 children of active-duty members in need of child care.

The association also supports Guard and Reserve members through Operation Child Care, a voluntary program that provides up to six hours of free child care to Guard and Reserve families whose deployed member is returning home for rest and recuperation.

Wing Newcomers

302nd Airlift Wing

Staff Sgt. Wendy D. Eberhart
Staff Sgt. Gina L. Epps

302nd Aeromedical Staging Squadron

Master Sgt. Richard R. Griego
Senior Airman Austin C. Penny
Airman Basic Susan C. Armstrong

302nd Airlift Control Flight

Staff Sgt. Donna D. Gordon

302nd Maintenance Squadron

Senior Airman Christopher J. Rosado
Airman 1st Class Gavin K. Folkstead
Airman 1st Class David L. Ulery
Airman 1st Class Randy L. Wake

302nd Maintenance Operations Flight

Senior Airman Kelly J. Dague
Senior Airman Gary F. Wilson

302nd Mission Support Group

Tech. Sgt. Angela Eberhart

39th Aerial Port Squadron

Staff Sgt. Mark W. Ramler
Airman 1st Class Jason C. Herbkersman

302nd Civil Engineer Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Michael F. Laxamana

302nd Communications Flight

Airman 1st Class Jake M. Cline-Norton

731st Airlift Squadron

Capt. Kristen J. Timko
Tech. Sgt. Charles A. Erlandson

8th Space Warning Squadron

Capt. Elizabeth N. Kasayka

310th Communications Flight

Airman 1st Class Benjamin Bryars

310th Security Forces Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Russel D. Vaughn
Staff Sgt. Jonathan Stevens
Staff Sgt. Jeremiah S. Ward
Airman 1st Class Timothy M. Brunson

Sharp Troop of the Month

Name: Lissy L. Slezak

Rank: Technical

Sergeant

Section: Personnel

Readiness

Job: Chief of

Personnel Readiness;

ensuring all mobility

taskings are loaded

and personnel are assigned and ready to deploy.

Date assigned wing: August 2000

Hometown: Panama City, Panama

Hobbies: Avid runner; continuing my education and spending time with my family.

Favorite thing about your job: Knowing that no one deploys without being properly prepared to go.



Supervisors - Do you have an exceptional troop whom you would like to nominate for Sharp Troop of the Month? If so, contact the editor of the *Front Range Flyer* at 302aw.pa@302.peterson.af.mil, or call (719)556-4117, or toll free (800)446-9624.

NCO of the quarter is customer-driven

By Tech. Sgt. David D. Morton

Front Range Flyer

It took two years for Tech. Sgt. Juan Torres, 39th Aerial Port Squadron, noncommissioned officer in charge of the supply, to transition from active duty to the Air Force Reserve.

However, in the end the long transition period paid off as Sergeant Torres was named NCO of the quarter for the first quarter of 2005.

"I was too old to cross train into

another career field, and was willing to wait for a supply opening," said the sergeant. "I couldn't believe recruiters were still able to locate a position and contact me after two years."

Sergeant Torres, who works as a customer service representative for the Bank of America in his civilian occupation, has always has been customer service driven.

"Don't contact me about government credit card issues," the sergeant joked. "I've always been able to help people solve problems and have been customer service oriented, but I don't deal with the government credit cards at all."

Sergeant Torres joined the 302nd Airlift Wing in October 1994 after serving as active-duty supply sergeant with 42nd Bombardment Wing, Loring Air Force Base, Maine.

"I felt it was an easy transition," said Sergeant Torres, who is originally from Puerto Rico and resides in Falcon, Colo.



Tech. Sgt. Juan Torres inspects a pair of boots during the March unit training assembly. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. David D. Morton)

Wing Promotions

Chief Master Sergeant

Janine M. Cragin
Larry D. Crooks

Senior Master Sergeant

Brian J. Galles
Douglas J. Rounds
Shannon M. Snare
James Willoughby

Master Sergeant

Richele L. Beckett
Horace L. Baker
John B. Gaydusek
Timothy R. Hamblin
Cheryl L. Johnston
Clark K. Power
Leroy J. Rodriguez Jr.
Joseph M. Rorick
Kyle M. White

Technical Sergeant

Michelle R. Ashton
Scott C. Bartkowiak
John J. Bastone
Thomas D. Black
Myron L. Davis
Waihini W. Gaditano
Bridgina Harris

Charles R. Howard
Donavon J. Martineau
Tanya Y. Moon
Michelle R. Spratt
Don A. Steuber
Mark A. Rinker

Staff Sergeant

Ernie A. Escarcega
Jonathan D. Hilliard
Maitland H. Jowell
Andre P. Leboeuf
Luis A. Lopez
Kevin J. Paywoski
Justin D. Tolbert
Jon D. Tyler

Senior Airman

Zachary J. Astrup
Victor R. Bejarano
Pamela J. Hall
Jamie L. Johnson
Bobby J. Martinez
Michelle J. McCracken
Kevin J. Rabinovich
Mayte P. Zepeda

Airman 1st Class

Hannah F. Peacock

Enjoy activities & events through Peterson AFB

<http://21svs.com>

Services Airman anchoring The Rock

By Maj. David Simons
386th AEW Public Affairs

Editor's note: The foillowing article appeared in Rock Slate, the newspaper for the 386th Air Expeditionary Wing, Kuwait.

For Senior Airman Patricia Rojero, being part of the fitness staff at "The Rock" fitness center means a lot more than passing out equipment at the area's number one workout facility. It is a matter of life and death.

It isn't lost on this airman that her role is critical to the mission. She knew that before the wing commander told her and every officer and enlisted person who attended the mandatory "Right Start" briefing.

In the commander's remarks, really a directional and motivational sermon, he incorporates a focus that "every job is important on an expeditionary air base."

If it wasn't important, the assets wouldn't be wasted on funding the job, when they can be used for more important items to help win the peace.

As espoused by Col. Mike Keltz, 386th Air Expeditionary Wing commander, command leadership believes "it is the Airman at the base fitness center that provides and maintains the workout equipment; that allows the aircrew member to work out; thus keeping them in peak flying condition; and, should they have an in-flight emergency, they have the strength, mental and physical, to overcome the problem; possibly saving the aircraft and crew."

The statement is true, it is relevant, and it

is the motivation and direction in which the 386th AEW moves.

For Airman Rojero, her four-month deployment is a personal journey, as well as a professional journey. She volunteered for this deployment to toughen up mentally and test her inner self.

"I chose this assignment because it was going to test my inner will, to determine what I can take," said Airman Rojero.

"When I leave, I hope to have more confidence in my abilities and to consider myself a stronger person."

Her work at the 386th Expeditionary Services Squadron allows her to help schedule some of the fun events at The Rock.

The five-kilometer fun runs, the bench press competitions and aerobics classes all fall under her specialty.

More importantly, at an air base where service members are not allowed to leave due



Senior Airman Patricia Rojero, 302nd Services Flight, is a member of the fitness staff with the 386th Expeditionary Services Squadron, Kuwait. (Photo by Airman 1st Class Amanda Hall)

to force protection issues, and where alcohol consumption is forbidden, working out is the highlight of many Airmen's off-duty time.

The El Paso, Texas native has postponed college. However, upon her return, she will attend the University of Phoenix and major in criminal justice and specialize in anti-terrorism.

Also, when she returns, the 302nd Air Wing will have a stronger person and a more qualified services Airman.

Commentary earns AFRC honor

By Tech. Sgt. Tim Taylor
Front Range Flyer

They say the pen is mightier than the sword. If this is true, Brig. Gen. William P. Kane, 302nd Airlift Wing commander, wields a deadly writing utensil. The general garnered third place honors in Commentary category at the 2004 Air Force Reserve Command Media Contest.

His entry, 'Thank you for my Liberty,' which he penned for the November 2004 issue of the

Front Range Flyer, captured his feelings about his visit to Normandy, France last June.

General Kane had the honor of leading the mission which airdropped 750 paratroopers near the town of St. Mare Eglise' to commemorate the 60th anniversary of D-Day, the invasion of Europe. While standing near a statue memorializing World War II paratroopers, an elderly Dutch woman approached him and said, "Thank you for my liberty."

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